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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/539,770	06/20/2005	Jean-Louis Lescourret	4590-423	6477
33308	7590	03/13/2007	EXAMINER	
LOWE HAUPTMAN GILMAN & BERNER, LLP 1700 DIAGNOSTIC ROAD, SUITE 300 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			WHITTINGTON, KENNETH	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2862	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
3 MONTHS	03/13/2007	PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/539,770	LESCOURRET, JEAN-LOUIS
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Kenneth J. Whittington	2862

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 5-7 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 20 June 2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/20/05, 5/22/06
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION***Specification***

The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout for the specification of a utility application. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use.

6

Arrangement of the Specification

As provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b), the specification of a utility application should include the following sections in order. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, 12 without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

- (a) TITLE OF THE INVENTION.
- (b) CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS.
- 18 (c) STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT.
- (d) THE NAMES OF THE PARTIES TO A JOINT RESEARCH AGREEMENT.
- (e) INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC.
- (f) BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.
 - (1) Field of the Invention.
 - (2) Description of Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
- (g) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.
- (h) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S).
- 30 (i) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.
- (j) CLAIM OR CLAIMS (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (k) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (l) SEQUENCE LISTING (See MPEP § 2424 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A "Sequence Listing" is required on paper if the application discloses a nucleotide or amino acid sequence as defined in 37 CFR 1.821(a) and if the required "Sequence Listing" is not submitted as an electronic document on compact disc).

Abstract

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure. The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

6 The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it contains terms that can be implied, i.e., "are described", in line 3. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b). It is 12 noted that simply deleting these terms would overcome the objection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

18 Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. 24 The steps recited are merely measuring, processing of data, and deducing therefrom the magnetic fields. Thus, while the claims fit into a statutory category of patentable subject matter (i.e., process), the claims are directed to an abstract idea or natural phenomena and thus do not comply with the requirements

Art Unit: 2862

of Section 101. This is because these claims are merely an algorithm for deducing the magnetic fields. See MPEP 2106IV(C).

However, if the claims recite a practical application of a judicial exception, they will comply with Section 101. To comply, the claims must transform an article or physical object 6 to a different state or thing and otherwise produce a useful concrete and tangible result. See MPEP 2106IV(C) (2). While claims 1-4 may provide a useful and concrete result, that result is not tangible, i.e., the claims must produce a real-world result that is tangible, and not merely abstract.

As a suggestion, amending claim 1 to include "outputting a 12 signal representing the position and orientation of the mobile object based on the deduced magnetic fields" or "outputting a signal representing the deduced magnetic fields" would provide the claims with a tangible and real-world result and would overcome this rejection.

18

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5-7 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art does not show or teach a calibration channel elaborating at different second frequencies, injecting calibration currents into the sensor channels to produce

Art Unit: 2862

calibration measurement values, estimating a transfer function and deducing the magnetic fields from the measurement values and the inverse transfer function in the manner as recited in the claims and in combination with the other features of the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be
6 submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to
avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue
fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on
Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Claims 1-4 would be allowable if rewritten or amended in
the manner as suggested above to overcome the rejections under
12 35 U.S.C. 101, set forth in this Office action.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication
of allowable subject matter: the prior art does not show or
teach a calibration channel elaborating at different second
frequencies, injecting calibration currents into the sensor
channels to produce calibration measurement values, estimating a
18 transfer function and deducing the magnetic fields from the
measurement values and the inverse transfer function in the
manner as recited in the claims and in combination with the
other features of the claims.

Art Unit: 2862

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US7096148 discloses a magnetic tracking system having a calibration feedback coil mounted adjacent to the receiver coils.

6 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth J. Whittington whose telephone number is (571) 272-2264. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:30am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are 12 unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Lefkowitz can be reached on (571) 272-2180. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.



Kenneth J Whittington
Examiner
Art Unit 2862

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kjw



EDWARD LEFKOWITZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800